

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /137 W

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R 071530 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7343

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CY

SUBJECT: MAKARIOS PRESS CONFERENCE; CONTINUED ENOSISTS AGITATION

REF: NICOSIA 1040

BEGIN SUMMARY: MAKARIOS DEFENDS LEGALITY OF HIS
DECLARATION PAPHOS SEE VACANT; CONTINUES ATTACK GRIVAS.
ENOSIST GROUP RAIDS PRO- MAKARIOS VILLAGE IN PAPHOS.
"EOKA- B" LEAFLET DECLARES PARA- STATE FORCES WILL BE GRUSHED.
END SUMMARY

1. IN MAY 5 PRESS CONFERENCE, ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS
VIGOROUSLY DEFENDED HIS ACTION IN DECLARING PAPHOS SEE
VACANT. HE CLAIMED SEE AUTOMATICALLY BECAME VACANT AS
RESULT BISHOP YENNADIOS' LENGTHY ABSENCE AND FACT THAT
FLOCK NO LONGER WILLING ACCEPT HIM AS LEADER. MAKARIOS
DISMISSED BISHOP OF KITIUM' S ALLEGATION THAT HIS ACTION
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UNLAWFUL (REFTEL) WITH OBSERVATION THAT BISHOP AND HIS ASSOCIATES ARE NOT CONSIDERED TO BE AUTHORITIES ON CANON LAW. MAKARIOS SAID YENNADIOS' DISMISSAL IS FIRST STEP IN CHURCH PURGE AND REVEALED THAT BISHOP SUFFRAGAN OF CONSTANTIA CURRENTLY CONSULTING WITH ALEXANDRIA PATRIARCHATE ON CONVENING " MAJOR SYNOD" IN LATTER HALF OF JUNE.

2. WHILE SYNOD MUST BE COMPOSED OF MINIMUM 13 REPRESENTATIVES -- TO BE DRAWN FROM JERUSALEM, ANTIOCH, ALEXANDRIA, AND ECUMENICAL (ISTANBUL) PATRIARCHATES PLUS REPRESENTATIVES OF CHURCH OF GREECE -- MAKARIOS SAID MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE EVEN IF ONE OR MORE OF GROUPS DECLINED PARTICIPATE. AT SYNOD, MAKARIOS SAID THREE BISHOPS WILL BE CHARGED WITH ACTIONS CONTRARY TO CANON LAW. DECISIONS OF SYNOD. HE ADDED NEED NOT BE UNANIMOUS.

3. MAKARIOS STRONGLY ATTACKED GRIVAS AND HIS TERRORIST SUPPORTERS FOR THEIR " SCANDALOUS INTERFERENCE" IN CHURCH AFFAIRS, CLAIMING BISHOPS' DECISION DEFROCK HIM BASED ON GENERAL' S EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS. ARCHBISHOP REITERATED HIS DESIRE FOR " UNDERSTANDING WITH GRIVAS, BUT SAID NEITHER GENERAL NOR HIS POLITICAL ASSOCIATES HAD SHOWN ANY WILLINGNESS ENTER DISCUSSIONS. LATEST " EOKA- B" LEAFLET DEMONSTRATED, SAID MAKARIOS, GRIVAS' IRRESPONSIBILITY, AND WAS AN EFFORT TO TERRORIZE PRIESTS. CLAIMING TO SPEAK FOR NATIONAL CENTER, GRIVAS AND HIS ASSOCIATES DISREGARD GREEK GOVT ADVICE WHEN IT SUITS THEIR PURPOSE. MAKARIOS SAID RECENT LULL IN VIOLENCE DOES NOT DIMINISH DANGER, SINCE GROUPS REMAIN IN BEING AND CONTINUE PREPARATIONS FOR NEXT ROUND. HOWEVER, MAKARIOS DENIED THAT HE HAD THREATENED ARREST GRIVAS IF HE CONTINUES ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.

4. ARCHBISHOP EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR GREEK AMB LAGACOS' " EFFORTS TO DEFUSE THE SITUATION", BUT ADDED HE UNABLE COMMENT ON RESULTS.

5. ARCHBISHOP CONFIRMED, INDIRECTLY, THAT GOVT NOW PLANS TO AUGMENT EXISTING POLICE UNITS WITH ADDITIONAL REGULAR AND SPECIAL CONSTABLES RATHER THAN CREATING A SEPARATE AUXILIARY FORCE.

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6. ARCHBISHOP REFUSED TO COMMENT ON CURRENT STORIES THAT HEALTH MINISTER SEVERIS HAS TENDERED RESIGNATION. COMMENT: ACCORDING EMBASSY SOURCES SEVERIS UPSET BY CHURCH CONTROVERSY AND HAS OFFERED WRITTEN RESIGNATION, TO WHICH MAKARIOS HAS NOT RESPONDED. IF REPORTS TRUE, WOULD BE FIRST DEFECTION FROM CABINET. PIO HAD EARLIER DENIED REPORTS CATEGORICALLY.

7. OTHER DEVELOPMENT: IN CONTRAST TO GENERAL
REDUCATION IN VIOLENCE, GROUP OF 10 (PRESUMABLY PRO-
GRIVAS) ARMED MEN RAIDED KINUSA VILLAGE IN PAPHOS
SUNDAY NIGHT, BEATING TWO MAKARIOS SUPPORTERS, FIRING
SHOTS, AND CUTTING TELEPHONE LINES. POLICE HAVE
ARRESTED TWO INDIVIDUALS, BOTH FROM KINUSA.

8. " EOKA- B" LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED IN DIKOMO MAY 5,
DISCLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR EARLIER EXPLOSION IN
VILLAGE WHICH THEY BLAMED ON PRO- MAKARIOS FORCES.
LEAFLETS WARNED THAT EOKA WILL " CRUSH" PARA- STATE FORCES
IF THEY CONTINUE ATTACKS ON ENOSISTS.
POPPER

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